THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) Two cases of minor girls being taken out of the country for marriage with Saudi nationals have been detected. On the basis of these two specific cases, it is not possible to confirm whether regular trafficking in minor girls to Gulf countries is taking place.

Atrocities on Women

2903. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number, and details of atrocities on women that have come to Government's notice, including cases of rapes, stripping, bride burning and subjecting them to humilitation during the past four months;

(b) how many of these crimes were commited on Tribal and dalit women in different States especially in Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) what steps if any, have been and are being taken to protect women against such atrocities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) Data on the following categories of atrocities against women is compiled by the Central Government:

1. Rape;

2. Dowry death;

3. Cruelty by husband and his relatives;

4. Molestation.

(a) and (b) A statement showing the available data on atrocities against women and rape of tribals and Dalit women in different states including Madhya Pradesh during the last 4 months of 1993 is given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix 170, annexure No. 62].

(c) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects and as such the registration, investigation detection and prevention of crimes, including crimes against women, is the responsibility of the State Governments|Union Territory Administrations. However, the Government of India have initiated a number of measures to check such crime. The Dowry Prohibition Act (1961) was amended in 1984 and 1986 to make the law more stringent. The Indian Penal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure (1973) and the Indian Evidence Act (1872) have been amended to deal effectively not only with dowry death cases but also with cases of cruelty to married women. Instructions|guidelines have also been issued from time to time to the State Governments|Union Territory Administrations to effective enforce legislation relating to crimes against women. Besides, the media is being used to project women in positive terms. Awareness-generation camps are being organised Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWACRA) Programme and female literacy programmes are some of the other steps being taken to improve the status of women.

Grant of Citizenship to Refugees

2904. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the question of granting citizenship to certain categories of refugees, including Chakma refugees, if so, what decision has been taken in the matter; and

(b) the number and details of refugees from different countries residing in the country State Union Territory-wise?